

1. Mrs. Coyne D. W. 5.13
2. Mrs. Knowles Ches. H. 2
3. February

RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MALMESBURY

1953.



RURAL DISTRICT

of

MALMESBURY.

T H E

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

S E N I O R S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R

and

S U R V E Y O R

for the

Y E A R E N D I N G 31st. D E C E M B E R

- 1 9 5 3 -

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) Medical Officer of Health.

C.L. BROOMHEAD, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.


(b) Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

R.S. PIERCE, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

R.T. Baynham, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert., to 31st. August, 1953.

D.G. Davis, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert., from 1st. November, 1953.



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TO:- The Chairman & members,
Malmesbury Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my
Annual Report for the year ended 31st. December, 1953.

The main causes of death were as usual Heart and Coronary Disease and the various forms of Cancer. There were no deaths from infectious disease. The death rate of 7.6 per thousand is remarkably low compared with the rate for England & Wales of 11.4 per thousand. The high birth rate and low infantile mortality rate of 22.5 per thousand live births are very satisfactory.

Communicable disease was negligible and was less than any year since 1949. The demand for beds in Isolation Hospitals' for infectious cases is steadily diminishing, making this type of hospital available for the treatment and nursing of other forms of illness. This general freedom from infectious disease, however, requires constant vigilance and is in measure due to the activities of Local Authorities and Health Officers in the past, i.e. previous preventive measures in the public health field are now paying a dividend.

No food poisoning occurred during the year. This freedom from infection could be maintained provided adequate personal hygiene was practised by all, both in the home and at places of employment. Education in the school of this rudimentary principle would diminish the need for the propaganda which is at present necessary.

The total number of persons suffering from tuberculosis shows an increase compared with the year 1952. This is not due entirely to new cases arising but to some extent is due to an increase in the number of previously notified patients arriving in the district.

Increase in the expectation of life gives an opportunity for the study of the causes of Cancer and disease of the circulation as these principally belong to the latter part of life. However, if the Local Authority is to play any part in the study of the causes of disease other than infectious disease, information will be needed on the incidence of the other forms of illness and disability necessitating attendance at a General Practitioner's Surgery or admission to hospital.

Birth & Death Rates, the causes of death and the incidence of infectious disease constitute the only statistical information received at present with the exception of weekly and quarterly numerical returns from the Registrar General in respect of the country as a whole.

I am grateful to Mr. Pierce and the staff of the Rural District Council for their help in compiling this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. Bramhead

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	58129
Population	11280
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1953 according to the Rate Book)	2855
Rateable Value	£53,315
Sum represented by Penny Rate (estimated)	£217

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	85	89	174
Illegitimate	2	1	3
Total Live Births	87	90	177

Birth Rate for the District	.15.6 per 1000 of the population.
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	.15.5 per 1000 of the population.

The Birth Rate for the District shows a slight decrease as compared with the rate for 1952 which was 16.3 per 1000 of the population. The Rate for England & Wales however has risen slightly over the 1952 figure of 15.3 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total Still Births	1	1	2

Rate per 1000 of the population	.0.17
Comparative Rate for England & Wales per 1000 of the population	0.35

The above table indicates no change to the figures and rates expressed in the Report for 1952.

DEATHS

Male	Female	Total
51	35	86

Death Rate for the District 7.6 per 1000
of the
population.
Comparative Rate for England & Wales 11.4 per 1000
of the
population.

The Death Rate for 1953 is considerably less than the figure given in the 1952 Report which was 10.6 per 1000 of the population. On the other hand the Death Rate for England & Wales for 1953 is slightly higher than the rate for 1952 given as 11.3 per 1000 of the population.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	Total.
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac.Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic dis.	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	-	-	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	5	-	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	2	-	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	9	16
Coronary disease angina	5	2	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	6	7	13
Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Other diseases of respiratory sys.	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis enteritis & diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis & nephrosis	3	1	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined & ill-defined dis.	6	2	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	2	-	2
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	51	35	86

It will be seen from the above table that Heart Disease and Coronary Disease continue to contribute largely to the causes of death.

INFANT MORTALITY

Table "A"

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total:-	4	-	4

Infant Mortality Rate

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1000
live births22.5

Rate for England & Wales per 1,000 related
live births. 26.8

compared The death rate for infants under 1 year not only
for the District but also for England and Wales has dropped
with the rates expressed for 1952 which were 30.9 and
27.6 respectively.

Table "B"

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:-	2	-	2

The figures given in Table "B" have already been
included in Table "A" above.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during 1953 as compared with 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952.

<u>DISEASE</u>	1949		1950		1951		1952		1953	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	13	13	12	12	20	20	13	12	2	2
Whooping Cough	6	6	22	22	31	31	11	11	15	15
Diphtheria	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	61	61	47	47	66	66	101	101	25	25
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	3	1	5	2	-	-	3	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	59	59	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	5	5	4	4	2	2	1	1	3	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
TOTALS:-	87	87	93	88	184	181	128	127	51	49

a = Numbers originally notified.

b = Numbers after correction.

Notifications in respect of Measles and Scarlet Fever were much less this year, whilst the total certificates received for all diseases shewn in the table, was the lowest recorded since 1949.

The three confirmed cases of Poliomyelitis, two of which were reported as paralytic, were removed to Isolation Hospital, and full precautions taken to prevent spread of infection.

Considering the seriousness of this disease, it is a matter of regret that the powers of Local Authorities have not been increased by amending legislation declaring Poliomyelitis a notifiable disease subject to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The case of Diphtheria reported was confirmed by bacteriological investigation. The patient, an adult female had no clinical signs, and no further cases were reported.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Distribution according to age
Notifications received during 1953 - Corrected figures.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65 years	Age Unknown	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	1	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	17	8	1	1	1	1	1	25
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Cerebro-spinal-Fever.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS:-	1	34	10	1	1	2	1	1	49

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases of tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during the year show only minimal fluctuation as compared with previous years.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	5	1	6
1949	3	-	3
1950	3	4	7
1951	6	-	6
1952	3	2	5

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1953, ACCORDING TO AGE & SEX.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
15								
25	1	2				1 +		
35								
45	3							
55		1						
65 upwards.	1							
TOTALS:	5	3				1		

+ Not notified before death.

The above table of new cases occurring during the year under review does not, of course, represent the total number of tuberculous patients living in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous individuals either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following cases were resident in the area at the end of 1953.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	26	19	45
Non-Pulmonary	9	7	16
TOTALS:-	35	26	61

It should be borne in mind that a suitable environment of the tuberculous patient is of paramount importance, and the need for adequate housing to diminish the spread of infection is emphasised.

SEWAGE & SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

Although the Senior Sanitary Inspector, in his Report, deals comprehensively with this subject as it affects the district as a whole, it was found necessary during the year to pay special attention to the position at Hullavington & Sherston.

HULLAVINGTON.

There is no proper method of disposal or treatment in the parish. An open ditch extending from the village pond to the stream north of the railway line receives road drainage and sullage water from properties on either side of the main road.

This ditch constitutes a potential danger to health, and complaints will undoubtedly be received from time to time of the nuisance it creates in the village.

As an interim measure therefore, the Council were recommended to pipe in the ditch where it runs in close proximity to dwelling houses.

SHERSTON.

An obsolete system of sewage disposal serves this village. The existing "Works" consist merely of a Settling Tank of some 5,000 gallons only.

In November an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government carried out an informal investigation into the matter, and it is hoped that during 1954 some progress will be made towards the construction of a Sewage Disposal Works. These Works are urgently required as the existing structure constitutes a danger to health and causes pollution of the adjacent stream.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year the various Undertakings serving the Rural District were subject to frequent bacteriological examination. Departures from the normal were investigated and appropriate action taken to safeguard the supply. A summary of inspections carried out during the year is given in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report annexed.

EXISTING SUPPLIES

(a) From Sources maintained by the Council.

1. OAKSEY - Water is raised from a Borehole and the supply is chlorinated before distribution to the consumer. Regular bacteriological examinations have been made of the treated water, and all samples, with the exception of three which contained a very small degree of non-faecal coliform organisms, were reported by the Bacteriologist as satisfactory.

A Chemical Analysis of the water going into supply was confirmed as satisfactory.

The borehole yield has also been satisfactory during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

2. CRUDWELL - This supply is not chlorinated. Samples submitted for bacteriological examination have shown only slight to moderate pollution with non-faecal coliform bacillus; no faecal types of B. Coli have yet been found in this water supply. There has been no shortage of water from this source during the year.
3. HULLAVINGTON. - The parish has two sources of supply, i.e., the Air Ministry main and the borehole owned by the Council. Although the former source is chlorinated, the borehole supply is not so treated, and samples taken for bacteriological examination have shown slight to moderate pollution with non-faecal coliform organisms. One sample however confirmed the presence of faecal types of B. Coli.

Owing to the smallness of the Council's borehole, and pumping plant, the quantity of water raised was not entirely satisfactory. This was particularly evident during the peak hours of consumption.

4. CORSTON. - Although frequent bacteriological examinations of the untreated spring water have shown a variable degree of non-faecal coliform pollution, the treated water going into supply has been satisfactory.

The yield from this source has been satisfactory also.

(b) Supplies in bulk from Other Authorities.

1. From Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C. to:-
Brinkworth, Dauntsey, Minety, Parts of Lea and Cleverton, Parts of Little Somerford and Parts of Great Somerford.
2. Malmesbury Borough Council to parts of St. Paul (Wt)
3. West Gloucestershire Water Coy. to Sherston Village.

(c) Areas supplied in detail by the West Gloucestershire Water Coy.

Luckington, Sopworth, Parts of Norton and Foxley and Parts of Sherston (Knockdown)

(d) PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

1. CHELWORTH - This is a small undertaking which supplies farms and cottages in the North of Crudwell Parish.
2. CHARLTON -The Charlton Estate provides a supply to Charlton Park and the Homes Farm with a Standpipe supply to Charlton Village. Frequent bacteriological examinations of the spring water, both at the source and at various points of supply have confirmed contamination with the non-faecal types of B.Coli. Three samples showed the presence of Faecal B. Coli.

In July a report was received that the Spring was being used as a swimming pool. Immediate steps were therefore taken to protect the supply by the erection of an unclimable fence around the spring.

A sample received at the Laboratory on the 30th.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)CHARLTON (Continued)

December, 1953 was confirmed to be polluted with a considerable number of coli aerogenes and also a moderate number of faecal types of B.Coli. Immediate steps were taken to warn residents to boil all water before drinking or use for domestic purposes. Vigorous action is being taken to locate and abate this pollution and a further report will be submitted to the Council during the forthcoming year.

3. BROKENBOROUGH - This is a small Undertaking giving a Standpipe supply in the village to 28 cottages and two farms. During the year a total of 34 samples of the raw and treated water were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results of the reports received are as follows:-

<u>Raw Water</u>		<u>Treated Water</u>	
Polluted with Faecal B.Coli.	10	Polluted with Faecal	
" " Non-" " "	3	B.Coli. . . .	3
Satisfactory	Nil.	Polluted with Non-	
		Faecal B. Coli. . . .	3
		Satisfactory . . .	15
TOTAL:-	13	Total:-	21

A chemical examination of the water was confirmed to be satisfactory.

4. EASTON GREY - The village is supplied by a small private estate supply.

All new mains and replacements of mains are chlorinated by the Water Manager before service pipes are provided therefrom.

I am grateful to Mr. Campbell for the following detail:-

Distribution of Water by Public Mains.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number of Dwellings</u>	<u>Estimated Population</u>	<u>Direct to house</u>	<u>By Stdpipe.</u>
Brinkworth	303	976	253	-
Brokenborough	83	30	8	-
Charlton	197	25	6	-
Crudwell	206	420	105	-
Dauntsey	115	412	103	-
Easton Grey	30	-	-	-
Gt. Somerford	158	440	115	-
Hankerton	69	6	2	-
Hullavington	162	530	135	-
Lea & Cleverton	168	382	99	-
Lt. Somerford	84	170	45	-
Luckington	141	370	93	-
Minety	233	780	205	-
Norton	46	109	34	-
Oaksey	118	330	91	-
St. Paul Wt.	370	1110	313	-
Sherston	392	1240	326	10
Sopworth	36	90	32	-
TOTALS:-	2911	7420	1965	10

Eleven dwelling houses, one farm, and one garage in the Calne & Chippenham Rural District and one dwelling house and two farms in the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District area are afforded supplies from the Council's mains.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

Number of Farms in district.374
Population of District 11280

	<u>Population</u>	<u>Trade and Farm Supplies.</u>
Supplied from R.D.C. own sources	2613	54
Bulk supplies from other Authys.	4238	158
Supplied in detail by West Glos. Water Company.	569	42
	<u>7420</u>	<u>254</u>

	<u>Domestic</u>	<u>Non-Domestic</u>
New connections made during year	112	40

Bulk supplies from adjoining Authorities:-

Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	26,396,000	
Maltesbury Borough Council.	11,990,000	
West Glos.Water Company.	11,280,000	
		49,666,000

Supplies from Council's Sources:-

Hullavington	2,960,000	
Corston	12,000,000	
Crudwell	2,920,000	
Oaksey	1,825,000	
		19,705,000

Regional Water Scheme.
New Works Completed during Year.

Mainlaying at Great and Little Somerford was completed in July and the major portion of the domestic and non-domestic properties were connected.

The villages of Dauntsey and Lea were transferred from the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett source to the Corston Spring Source.

LEGISLATION.

During the year under review the following legislation relating to public health came into operation.

1. The Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulations, 1953.

These regulations which came into force on the 1st. April supercede the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regns., 1927 and the Infectious Diseases (London) Regulations, 1927. The general substance and form of the new regulations are similar to the old, in that they require notification of malaria, dysentery, acute primary pneumonia and acute influenzal pneumonia, but in addition, Local Authorities are now empowered to take action against the risk of food poisoning in cases of typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever and other salmonella infections, dysentery and staphylococcal infection likely to cause food poisoning. The regulations provide for action to be taken not only with regard to a person suffering from the disease, but also a person shown to be a carrier of the disease, thus such persons may not only be prevented from continuing to work in an occupation connected with food or drink, but also from entering such an occupation. A copy of the regulations were sent to all medical practitioners practising in the district.

LEGISLATION (Continued)

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) (Amendment) Regulations, 1953.

These regulations came into force on the 20th. December, 1953 and require that as from the 1st. October, 1954 containers of pasteurised milk must be provided with overlapping caps, and permits the sterilisation of milk in cans or other suitable containers as well as in bottles.

The Milk & Dairies (Amendment) Regulations, 1953.

These amendment regulations which came into force on the 27th. December, 1953 exclude from the registration requirements of the principal regulations, persons who sell cream in the hermetically sealed containers in which it is delivered to the premises and who are not otherwise distributors of milk.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

This Act, which came into force on the 14th. July, 1953 provides, inter alia, for the making of Closing Orders in respect of certain buildings hitherto required to be demolished under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and also provides for the revocation of a Demolition Order and the making of a Closing Order on the property in lieu thereof.

In addition to the new Public Health Legislation laid before Parliament during the year, various circulars, memoranda and Orders have been issued by the Ministries of Health and Food on matters pertaining to health covered by the existing Public Health Acts.

Impending Legislation which may possibly come into force during 1954 include a new Food & Drugs Act, Slaughterhouse Act and a Housing Act.

During the preparation of this Report the following Circulars and Memorandum have been received.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

A Circular issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government stresses that Local Authorities should now take up as a matter of urgency, the campaign of Slum Clearance which the War interrupted. This is a matter which will require careful thought and planning during the forthcoming year.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

A Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health on the prevention of this disease, mentions, inter alia, that the rapid decline in the death rate from tuberculosis in recent years has not been accompanied by a corresponding decline in notifications, and that this indicates a need for intensifying various preventive measures.

Under existing legislation, the County Council, the District Council and the Regional Hospital Board are collectively responsible for the treatment and after-care of the tuberculous patient. The prevention of this disease also rests with this "tripartite" body; the main function of the District Council being to ensure that the tuberculous patient and his family are adequately housed.

The National Assistance Act, 1948.

Sec. 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year it was found necessary to obtain a Court Order under The National Assistance Act, 1947 to secure the removal of one old person to hospital. This was done only after repeated attempts at persuasion had failed. Further Court Orders were obtained extending the original Order for three months at a time as a necessary measure to protect the health of the person concerned.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following children received primary immunisations during 1953.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1 - 4</u>	<u>Ages 5 - 14</u>
43	66	20
<u>Total:- 129</u>		

Total immunised child population as at 31. December, 1953

<u>Ages 0 - 4</u>	<u>Ages 5 - 14</u>	<u>Total</u>
424	1231	1655

VACCINATION.

The following children were vaccinated during 1953:-

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1 - 14</u>	<u>Ages 5-15</u>
84	11	7
<u>Total:- 102</u>		

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY
INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1953.

HOUSING.

ERECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

Houses completed during the year:-

Brinkworth	Cornish Unit	19
Corston	do	22
Charlton	Traditional houses	12
	Bungalows	4
Lea	Traditional Bungalows	2
Sherston	do	<u>4</u>
Total:-		<u>£ 63</u>

Number of inspections of above houses and sites. 246

CHARLTON CENTRE.

A total of 71 families are now housed in converted huts.

Number of inspections in connection therewith....67

TEMPORARY HOUSING.

All families occupying requisitioned premises were rehoused permanently during the year 1953 and the houses derequisitioned.

MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

At the end of the year under review the Council's direct labour staff were maintaining the following houses and other accommodation:-

Pre-war	164
Wartime agricultural	8
Barley Close Bungalows Burton	
Hill	14
Exhibition Cottage	1
Day Nursery	7
Charlton Centre	71
Post War Traditional	76
Swedish	6
Airey	30
Cornish Unit	<u>87</u>
Total:-	<u>464</u>

The maintenance of the houses includes attention to 26 sewage disposal plants. There are now 87 sewage tanks which require periodic emptying.

Number of inspections of occupied Council Houses . . 331

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE BUILDING.

Number of houses erected by Private Enterprise. . . 14

ADMINISTRATION OF BUILDING BYELAWS.

Number of plans submitted for approval.	67
Number of plans approved	67
Number of inspections in connection therewith.	219

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

Number of applications for permission to develop.	59
Number approved without conditions	22
Number approved with conditions	34
Number of applications withdrawn	2
Number of applications refused	1
Number of inspections in connection therewith	78

BUILDING LICENSING.

Number of applications for licences.	19
Number of licences granted	19
Value of licences granted	£41,708
Number of inspections in connection therewith	23

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS.

Number of inspections of caravans etc.	22
--	----

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGS.

Number of inspections of dwellings for defects under Housing or Public Health Acts.	438
Number of dwellings found unfit for habitation	NIL
Number of dwellings found to be not in all respects fit	107
Number of dwellings repaired by informal action	37
Number of cases of statutory action under Housing Acts	NIL
Number of cases of statutory action under Public Health Acts.	NIL
Number of dwellings rendered fit as a result of statutory action.	1
Number of houses demolished	1
Number of undertakings completed	2
Number of overcrowded dwellings known at end of year.	NIL
Number of cases discovered during year	NIL
Number of cases abated during year	NIL
Number of persons concerned	NIL

HOUSING SURVEY.

The Rural Housing Survey for the district is complete and the houses have been classified as follows:-

Category 1	Satisfactory	407
" 2	Minor defects	289
" 3	Major defects	459
" 4	Suitable for reconstruction	233
" 5	Unfit	170
	TOTAL:-	<u>1558</u>

HOUSING ACT, 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Number of applications for grant.	16
Number approved by Council	15
Number approved by Ministry	9
Number of schemes completed	3

It is felt that there is a great scope for the improvement of cottages under this Act and that it is unfortunate that more owners do not take advantage of its provisions and that the officers of the Ministry set such a high standard of requirements before a grant is approved. Modern amenities could be provided to many houses at a fraction of the cost of new buildings were the requirements as to interior planning and arrangement less rigid. There has been an increase in the number of applications during this year.

WATER.

Samples from the Council's supplies have been regularly submitted for examination, together with occasional samples from private supplies and the necessary action taken thereon.

Number of inspections in connection with
water supplies 253

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

There are sewers and small obsolete disposal plants in the following parishes:- Crudwell, St. Paul Without (Burton Hill) and Sherston.

Sewers discharging without treatment into ditches water-courses or streams are at Brinkworth, Corston, Great Somerford, Hullavington, Lea, Little Somerford, Luckington, Oaksey and Sopworth. The Council have for years undertaken the periodic cleansing of ditches at Brinkworth, Great Somerford, Hullavington and Luckington.

It is becoming progressively difficult and expensive to obtain labour for such work and the increased flow of drainage consequent upon the installation of piped water supplies makes the problem more acute. The cost of maintaining the present systems in a reasonable state together with that of independant disposal systems for new houses, is rapidly approaching the amounts of loan charges to be borne for new village sewerage systems.

Number of inspections in connection with
Sewage Disposal 68

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Household refuse is collected twice-monthly over the whole of the Rural District. The collections are carried out by direct labour and refuse is deposited at 4 tips. Brinkworth and Hullavington (owned by the Council), Oaksey and Sherston (by arrangement with the owners). Collections generally have given rise to no complaints and no serious difficulty has been experienced at the tips.

Mileage covered by the lorry in collections. . .11516
Number of inspections in connection with
collection and disposal 49.

RODENT CONTROL.

The refuse tips have been treated as required for the destruction of rats and sewers shew no serious infestation. Private premises have been treated on request, without charge, as in the past.

Number of visits in connection with Rodent Control. .165

INFESTATIONS.

Number of cases reported and dealt with
Flies 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

40 visits were made and the necessary action taken following reported cases of infectious disease.

NUISANCES.

Number of inspections in connection with drainage
and drainage disposal. 238

FOOD INSPECTION.

MILK.

Number of Milk Distributors registered. 2
Number of inspections of premises 6

BAKEHOUSES.

5 Bakehouses in the district are clean and generally
satisfactory.

MEAT.

There is no regular slaughtering in the district, all
meat being delivered from the Ministry of Food Central Slaughter-
house

135 lbs of beef and 4 lbs of pork were condemned.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

One Fried Fish Shop is registered and is satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered for manufacture. NIL
" " " " " sale 17
" " inspections. 27

5 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological
examination and were reported to be satisfactory.

FOOD SHOPS.

Number of inspections. 60

PUBLIC HOUSES.

A progressive scheme for the improvement of sanitary
accommodation and washing-up facilities is in operation and
most of the licensed houses in the District are now satisfactory.

The absence of piped water supply and difficulty of
drainage disposal has made it necessary to postpone, for the
time being, much needed improvements to some houses.

Number of inspections in connection therewith. . 43

SCHOOLS.

Number of inspections in connection with supply of
milk and meals. 4

STORAGE OF PETROL.

Number of inspections of premises. 8

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year the total number of inspections
made under the various heads was. 2274.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 and 1948
Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	5	7	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	27	42	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	32	49	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Found	Remedied to H.M. Inspector	Referred	By H.M. Inspector.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
<u>Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)</u>					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	-	-	-	-	-

